

REMARKS

By the above amendment, a minor informality in claim 5 has been corrected, and claim 6 has been amended to correspond to the features of independent claims 1 and 5, with new dependent claim 7 being presented, which recites features previously presented in claim 6 and is dependent upon claim 6.

The requirement for restriction to one of the inventions identified as invention I - claims 1-5, drawn to a magnetoresistive head, classified in class 360, subclass 324.12 and invention II - claim 6, drawn to a method of making a magnetoresistive head, classified in class 29, subclass 603.07, is traversed insofar as it is applicable to the present claims. In this regard, it is noted that invention II now includes claims 6 and 7.

The Examiner contends that inventions II and I are related as process of making and product made, respectively, and setting forth the requirements for distinctness in accordance with MPEP §806.05(f) which are in terms of the process as claimed or the product as claimed. Irrespective of the position set forth by the Examiner, applicants submit that by the present amendment, the product as claimed in independent claims 1 and 5 of invention I is coextensive with the process as claimed in amended independent claim 6 of invention II. Thus, the process nor product require the particular steps or features previously referred to by the Examiner, and applicants submit that the process of claim 6 of invention II, as amended, is coextensive with the product of claims 1 and 5 of invention I. Accordingly, applicants submit that any distinctness, as contended by the Examiner, can no longer be shown between invention I and invention II, as claimed, in relation to claims 1, 5 and 6, and therefore, applicants submit that the restriction requirement is improper and should be withdrawn.

In order to provide a complete response to the restriction requirement, applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, invention I including claims 1-5.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants request withdrawal of the restriction requirement and favorable action with respect to all claims present in this application.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.41177X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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